trafficking is a clandestine activity. Reports of seizures of narcotic drugs during the last three calendar years, received from various Drug law Enforcement Agencies, do not indicate any consistent trend of increase/ decrease in the quantities of drug so seized.

(b) and (c) To deal effectively with those engaged in drug trafficking, the Government has, in October 2001, amended the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act. The Government has also taken a number of other steps in this regard. These include instructions to all drug enforcement agencies to maintain utmost vigil and step up the enforcement efforts, periodical training of the enforcement officers, close interaction between the agencies of the Central and State Governments and quarterly coordination meetings for this purpose by the Narcotics Control Bureau, neutralizing organised drug traffickers by coordinated action, modernization and upgradation of the police and security forces, fencing and flood lighting of the Indo-Pak border and holding periodic bilateral meetings of the Indian and Pakistani Anti-Narcotics Agencies, vesting of powers in the Border Security Force and the Coast Guards under the Customs Act to interdict narcotic drugs, notifying certain precursor chemicals, *viz.*, Acetic Anhydride, Ephedrine, etc., as 'Controlled Substances' under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, etc.

Complaints against former MD of TFL

2125. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGAT RAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Scurities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) have received complaints from Tata Finance Limited (TFL) against the former Managing Director of TFL and certain brokers for violation of the Code of Conduct under SEBI Stock Brokers Regulation by issuing false backdated contract notes and bills;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the guilty executives of TFL and stock brokers by SEBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) and (b) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has intimated that SEBI has received complaints from Tata Finance Ltd. (TFL) against former Managing Director of TFL and against two stock brokers of the Stock Exchange, Mumbai (BSE), in which allegations in respect to insider trading by former Managing Director of TFL in the share of TFL were made. It was also alleged that brokers abetted former Managing Director and violated SEBI (Stockbrokers and Sub-brokers) Regulations. A complaint in respect to alleged unauthorised carry-forward transaction in the shares of Global Telesystems Ltd. has also been received from TFL recently.

(c) SEBI is investigating into the aforesaid allegations. An interirn report on investigations done into alleged insider trading by former Managing Director of TFL in the shares of TFL has been prepared and further investigations are under progress. SEBI will be in a position to take action against persons found guilty of violating SEBI Act, and regulations made there under after following due process of law once the investigation is completed.

Refund cases of income tax

2126. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large amount is pending for refund to IT payees;

(b) if so, what is the estimated amount so pending;

(c) whether there is any contingency plan to clear those arrears;

(d) whether Government would refund these amounts with interest thereon; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) It is not possible to make any estimate because refunds will be determined only when the returns are processed. This is a year round process.

(c) The steps taken for the purpose include processing of returns on computers, processing of refund cases on priority, ensuring availbility of refund voucher books, deployment of extra manpower etc.